

World War II Memorial that was built to honor the 16 million Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, Coast Guardsmen, and Merchant Mariners who served our Nation during World War II.

With the strong belief that everything good in his life is because of these courageous veterans, Mr. Miller began a campaign to send every World War II veteran from Henderson County to Washington, DC to see the memorial, which opened in 2004. World War II veterans who had not already been to the memorial and had physical or financial limitations were offered the chance to take the trip. The community came together to raise the money to fund the project. Many community groups, businesses and individuals contributed to this project, allowing these brave veterans to travel to Washington to see the memorial that was built in their honor. Mr. Miller, the Honor Air volunteers and contributors have all given something back to those for whom the debt can never be repaid. By the time it makes its last flight, 625 veterans from Hendersonville, NC will have made the Honor Air trip.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in expressing my appreciation and admiration for Jeff Miller, who made it possible for so many of our veterans to have the opportunity to see the National World War II Memorial.

**EMPLOYEE BENEFIT RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE 30TH ANNIVERSARY—  
TRIBUTE**

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 3, 2008*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, among the key areas of jurisdiction for the Education and Labor Committee are employee benefits—specifically, retirement and health benefits—that are so important to the economic security of American workers. Over the years, Congress has passed various laws designed to protect and strengthen the health and pension benefit programs that millions of American workers and retirees depend on.

Congress needs timely and objective data in order to determine and ensure that these critical programs are delivering needed benefits. When Government data is not available, one of the most valuable resources we have to help us understand what is happening in these areas is the nonpartisan and nonprofit Employee Benefit Research Institute, EBRI, which marks its 30th anniversary this year.

EBRI is a rare organization in Washington: It does not take policy positions and it does not lobby—its mission is to provide objective, accurate, reliable research. One of the reasons its work gets attention and is respected is because EBRI does not have an ideological agenda and it does not try to “spin” the numbers. Because EBRI is a non-advocacy organization, legislators on both sides of the aisle can use its work with confidence.

EBRI also has important educational initiatives, in particular its “Chose to Save” program, which has produced and distributed award-winning public service announcements designed to help Americans wake up to the need for saving. This campaign also provides

valuable tools so workers can quickly and easily determine a “Ballpark Estimate” of how much they need to save, and gives them pointers on how to start saving and where to go for help.

EBRI was created partly as a result of the enactment in 1974 of ERISA, the major Federal law governing health and retirement benefits, because employers needed objective, reliable information about benefit trends. Much has changed since then, both in the benefits that American workers receive, and in the Federal laws that govern those benefits. EBRI's work has helped lawmakers, plan sponsors, workers, and the news media understand current trends and how proposed legislative changes are likely to affect the benefits system.

EBRI has been guided by Dallas Salisbury, its president and chief executive officer. Mr. Salisbury has been an important analyst and contributor to national public policy decision making on employee benefits. His thoughtful and often prescient analyses have aided lawmakers throughout the years.

EBRI's research provides information that is critical to the decisions made by public policymakers. As EBRI celebrates its 30th anniversary, I want to thank them for decades of quality work. We look forward to their continued research and analysis in the future.

**HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE  
OF U.S. NAVY PETTY OFFICER  
MATTHEW J. O'BRYANT**

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 3, 2008*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember the life and courageous service of United States Navy Petty Officer Third Class Matthew J. O'Bryant.

Petty Officer O'Bryant was killed in a terrorist attack at the Marriott Hotel in Islamabad, Pakistan, a cowardly act that claimed the lives of 53 people including two members of our country's armed forces. Matthew was serving in support of Operation Enduring Freedom from Islamabad.

A native of Theodore, AL, Matthew O'Bryant excelled in the ROTC program at Theodore High School and was assigned to Navy Information Operations Command at Fort Meade, MD, as a cryptologic technician.

As a cryptologic technician, Petty Officer O'Bryant was in charge of maintaining the advanced communications and technological equipment so vital to America's success in 21st century warfare.

Petty Officer O'Bryant's brother, along with two of his cousins, had enlisted to serve in the Navy. Coming from a Navy family, Petty Officer O'Bryant was deployed to Pakistan for only 30 days before the blast that took his life. At his funeral, Matthew's brother, Lawrence, remembered him by saying, “There were four of us in the Navy. Well, there's three of us now. I guess there will always be four of us because he will always be in the Navy.”

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to take a moment to reflect upon the many things that have helped to make this the greatest country on the face of the planet. And to that end, we must acknowledge that soldiers, sail-

ors, airmen, and marines like Petty Officer O'Bryant deserve the highest praise for their unselfish service and, in this particular case, for their willingness to make the ultimate sacrifice.

Madam Speaker, I hope you and my colleagues will join me in paying tribute to Petty Officer Matthew O'Bryant. We should also remember his wife, Bridgett O'Bryant; his parents, Barbara and Tommy O'Bryant; his two sisters, Janet O'Bryant and Nancy O'Bryant; his brother, Lawrence O'Bryant; and his other relatives and many friends.

Our prayer is that God will give them all the strength and courage that only He can provide to sustain them during the difficult days ahead.

May Matthew rest in peace. He was without question a true American hero.

**RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE  
BUD CRAMER AND THE HONORABLE  
TERRY EVERETT ON  
THEIR RETIREMENT FROM CONGRESS**

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 24, 2008*

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, TERRY came to the U.S. House of Representatives a successful businessman and is now heading back to Alabama as a successful congressman. No one doubts that TERRY knows the values of a hard day's work. He's been a farmer, an Air Force specialist, a small business owner and newsman. He served the people of Alabama's second district, stretching from Autauga down to Dothan, for the last 16 years with that same work ethic, and they have benefited from his service.

TERRY came to Congress as an intelligence expert from his days in the Air Force and an agriculture expert from his days on the farm—skills he put to good use sitting on the Agriculture, Armed Services and Select Intelligence committees.

I'm going to miss TERRY when Congress reconvenes next year. The whole House will miss his work ethic, keen insight and ability to get things done. His retirement is a blow to those in Washington that know and rely on him, but if anyone deserves our thanks for a job well done it is certainly my friend and longtime colleague TERRY EVERETT.

**AUTHORIZE FUNDING FOR THE  
NATIONAL CRIME VICTIM LAW  
INSTITUTE FOR VICTIMS UNDER  
CRIME VICTIMS LEGAL ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAMS AS PART OF  
THE VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT OF  
1984**

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 3, 2008*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 3641, “A bill to authorize funding for the National Crime Victim Law Institute to provide support for victims of crime under Crime Victims Legal Assistance Programs as a part of the Victims of

Crime Act of 1984," introduced by Senator KYL.

#### NATIONAL CRIME VICTIM LAW INSTITUTE (NCVLI)

Doug Belooof is professor of law at Lewis & Clark Law School. He founded the National Crime Victim Law Institute, NCVLI, in 1998, with the understanding that so many victims of crimes are in the dark about not only their cases, but their rights.

The institute promotes balance and fairness in the justice system through crime-victim-centered legal advocacy, education, and resource sharing.

NCVLI provides legal technical assistance to attorneys and advocates of victims and educates lawyers, judges, law students, victims' advocates, the law enforcement community, and the public about victims' rights. NCVLI also administers Federal grants to 8 clinics across the Nation that offer pro bono legal help for victims of sexual assault, homicide, domestic violence, fraud, and more.

Over the past 4 years alone, NCVLI's clinics have represented more than 735 victims, made nearly 1,000 court appearances, and filed over 500 documents on behalf of victims. Over the same time period, NCVLI's headquarters office has responded to nearly 2,000 requests for legal technical assistance and trained over 12,000 people in victims' rights.

Sadly, more than 17 States have no victims' rights amendment to their constitutions. Even in Texas, one of the 33 States that have made rights for crime victims constitutional, victims and criminal justice professionals often do not know the rights exist, let alone whether those rights are routinely asserted and enforced in criminal courts.

Rights that are enforceable afford victims critical information such as timely notification of upcoming hearings and proceedings involving their case, and also provide victims participatory status, including the right to be present in the courtroom to watch the proceedings, the right to confer with the prosecutor, the right to protection from the accused and those acting on behalf of the accused, the right to be heard at sentencing following the conviction of their offender, and the right to restitution.

#### JUVENILE VICTIMS

Even more disturbing, is the growing number of victims who are children. Between 1980 and 2002, an estimated 46,600 juveniles were murdered in the United States—1,600 in 2002. Homicides of juveniles peaked in 1993 at 2,900.

The number of juvenile homicide victims in 2002 was 44 percent below the 1993 peak, reaching its lowest level since 1984. Juveniles represented about 10 percent of all murder victims in 2002.

In 2002, 36 percent of murdered juveniles were female, 45 percent were Black, and 48 percent were killed with a firearm. Of the juvenile murder victims with known offenders in 2002, 38 percent were killed by family members, 47 percent by acquaintances, and 15 percent by strangers.

In 2002, the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control within the Centers for Disease Control, listed homicide as the fourth leading cause of death for children ages 1 through 11 and third for youth ages 12 to 17. Between 1980 through 2002, juvenile offend-

ers participated in 1 of every 4 homicides of juveniles in which the offenders were known to law enforcement.

According to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports tracking all murder victims, in 2006 about 50 percent of murder victims were Black, 47 percent were White, and 3 percent were Asians, Pacific Islander, and Native Americans.

#### CONCLUSION

There is an Angolan Proverb that says: "The one who throws the stone forgets; the one who is hit remembers forever." The National Crime Victim Law Institute ensures that the ones who are hit, the ones who are raped, the ones who are murdered—are never forgotten. They and their loved ones are aided in this overly complicated criminal justice system where often the rights of the victim get lost.

This legislation allows us to finally spend time on those who need our help the most—the victims. I urge, my colleagues to support S. 3641 and ensure that the victims are not forgotten.

#### RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE BUD CRAMER AND THE HONORABLE TERRY EVERETT ON THEIR RETIREMENT FROM CON- GRESS

#### SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 24, 2008*

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Congressman TERRY EVERETT, who has proudly represented Alabama's Second Congressional District for eight terms. His work on the Armed Services Committee, where he is the Ranking Republican of the Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, has been integral to our national security. Over the last 5 years, Mr. EVERETT has had oversight responsibility for \$150 billion in defense funds for our country's missile defense, military space and our critical nuclear energy programs. He has led efforts to make Congress and the American people aware of our reliance on space for both military and civilian satellites for our national defense, communications and even financial transactions. He has been on the front lines of warning us about our vulnerabilities and the need for constant improvement in our ability to defend and protect ourselves.

Congressman EVERETT has been a tremendous friend to our Nation's veterans, who selflessly served to protect our freedoms. Among the honor afforded our veterans is the choice to be buried in the hallowed ground of Arlington National Cemetery. In 1997, Mr. EVERETT was given the prestigious "Excellence in Programmatic Oversight" by House Republicans for investigating Arlington National Cemetery burial waivers that were being given to people who had not served in our military.

Mr. EVERETT has been a watchdog on behalf of those who have served our Nation, holding the Veterans' Administration accountable for timely and quality delivery of benefits and health care for our veterans', including in-

vestigating concerns about the care quality and administrative problems within the Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System with hospitals in Montgomery and Tuskegee, AL. Thanks to his efforts, those hospitals implemented much-needed health care and safety improvements.

Congressman EVERETT has also been a friend to American farmers, having served on the Committee on Agriculture and fought for the interests of American agriculture, which has a \$1 billion impact on the region he represents.

Congressman EVERETT served as an intelligence specialist in Europe with the Air Force, which served him well later in life when he was appointed to the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. He also worked as a newspaper reporter, writing at first about agriculture and public safety. He spent three decades in journalism, moving from reporter to editor to publisher to the top of the top of the ladder as owner of a chain of newspapers in the Southeast.

I thank Congressman EVERETT not just for his service to the people of Alabama's Second Congressional District, but for his commitment to ensuring the safety and protection of our Nation. He has been a forceful voice for reform to improve the care for our veterans and has worked hard for our farmers.

Mr. EVERETT's retirement is a great loss for this House. I wish him the very best of luck as he begins the next chapter in what has been a lifetime of service to his community and his country.

#### TRIBUTE TO EMILY NOTTINGHAM

**HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 3, 2008*

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work Emily Nottingham has done for the Tucson community.

Emily is retiring from the city of Tucson Community Services Department after 34 years of service to the community both on a local and national level.

I have been honored to work with Emily on many significant projects over the years.

Emily is one of this country's strongest advocates on behalf of affordable housing. Her steadfast determination to ensure that low income citizens have access to safe, decent and affordable housing has been a hallmark of her career.

Emily has been responsible for the implementation of a broad spectrum of housing assistance: from home ownership opportunities, to housing rehabilitation, rental housing assistance, and the development of mixed-income housing throughout the city of Tucson. During her tenure, the Section 8 program grew from helping fewer than 1,000 households to assisting nearly 5,000 households.

I am impressed with Emily's many accomplishments. Her tenacity, her dedication, and her vision have served Tucson well. The community will miss her energy and her common sense approach to the task at hand.

I wish Emily the very best in her retirement.